agitation has been going on the part of the students urging the necessity for a hostel for them, will the Government be pleased to reduce the rent in the Coxcheri buildings, so that students may be tempted to occupy that hostel? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' I do agree that because of the 20 years' agitation, it has become a chronic problem. The Coxcheri building was found unsuitable for the occupation of students, apart from the question of rent. That is why we have given it up. We are trying to provide alternate accommodation for this purpose.''

SRI C. KANDASAMY :—'' ஸார், நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஒரு வக்கீலாக இருப்பதால், அவரும் அந்த சட்டக் கல்லூரியில் படித்திருப்பார் என்று நினைக்கிறேன். ஆகவே, சட்டக் கல்லூரியில் பயிலும் மாணவர்களுடைய நன்மைக்காக ஒரு ஹாஸ்டல் ஏற்படுத்துவதற்கு மந்திரி அவர்கள் முயற்சி செய்வார்களா ? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' Yes, I was a student and I was able to get accommodation in some hostel and I suppose that even now certain number of the students are getting accommodation in the University Club and other hostels. But the problem is to accommodate all the students in a hostel. We are trying to find out some private bungalows where we can start the hostel.''

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH :—'' Sir, May I know how many Government Colleges in the City of Madras are without a hostel? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' A separate question may be put, Sir.''

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—'' Sir, I welcome the announcement by the Hon. Minister that further building programmes are suspended in view of the separation of the Andhra State. But will the Hon. Minister state whether there is any proposal by the University to construct hostels on co-operative basis? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' Sir, even though this does not come under the main question, I may say, I have heard of such a proposal.''

Opening of a Regional Coconut Research Station in Malabar.

* 403 *Q.*—SRI A. APPU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Indian Central Coconut Committee, Ernakulam, sent any scheme to Government in April 1952 to start a Regional Coconut Research Station in Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

'' (*b*) The scheme was considered by Government as a Part II Scheme for 1952–53 but was deferred in view of the difficult financial position of the State.''

26th March 1954]

SRI A. APPU :—" Sir, the Indian Central Coconut Committee has been constituted to consider the case of extending coconut cultivation in different areas. This Committee considered the proposal and submitted a report recommending the opening of a Research Station in Thikkodi in Kurumbranad taluk which is a highly coconut growing area. Will the Government reconsider the question and sanction the opening of a Research Station as early as possible, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, it is correct to say that the Indian Central Coconut Committee recommended the opening of a Research Station in Malabar, but that means financial assistance by this Government. On account of financial stringency, the scheme was deferred. Sir. if the financial position improves in the coming year, we shall certainly consider the proposal."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Sir, is the research to be restricted to improved methods of cultivation or will it also comprehend the manufacturing and using of by-products?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, this will relate to growing of coconuts."

SRI M. S. MOGRAL :—" May I know, Sir, how many coconut research stations are there in the State?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I am afraid, Sir, there is no coconut research station in this State."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, may I know the financial implication of the scheme and the part which this Government have to meet in that matter?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I do not have any information about this proposal to start a research station in Malabar. A research station was started in East Godavari in April 1951 and that meant an estimated cost of Rs. 81,656 recurring and Rs. 2,43,550 non-recurring."

SRI A. APPU :—" Sir, is not the Hon. Minister aware that a major portion of the expenses will be met by the Indian Central Coconut Committee, have this Government got sufficient funds?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" But still, this Government found themselves unable to meet the rest of the expenditure also."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, inasmuch as in this State there are research stations, in respect of matters of far less importance and since coconut is a very important commercial as well as Dollar earning crop of this State, may I know why the Government are hesitating to open this station at comparatively very less cost as given by the Hon. Minister?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I do not admit that there are research stations for crops which are far less important than coconut, but I do admit that coconut is

[26th March 1954

an important crop. Government would consider next year if the financial position improves whether they could take up this question."

MR. SPEAKER :—" In ten minutes, we will have to finish the rest of the questions. I shall pass on to the next question."

Appointment of Probation Officers.

* 404 *Q.*—SRI D. DASARATHAN (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many posts of Probation Officers have been created by the State Government to check and supervise ex-prisoners;

(*b*) how many Probation Officers have been actually appointed and for what periods;

(*c*) how many posts are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(*d*) the functions of Probation Officers?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) Fifty-seven posts of Probation Officers were sanctioned by the Government prior to the bifurcation of the State, out of which forty-three posts have been retained in the Madras State.

" (*b*) Forty-three Probation Officers have been appointed. Of them, seventeen have been in continuous service for five years and more, twenty for a period over a year and less than five years and the rest, for periods less than a year, on 1st March 1954.

" (*c*) Five posts of Probation Officers were filled up from among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes up to 27th September 1951 and thereafter, three Probation Officers have been appointed from among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the general rules relating to reservation of appointments.

" (*d*) The normal functions of the Probation Officers have been printed and placed [a] on the table of the House."

10-50 a.m. SRI D. DASARATHAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister for Law, how many candidates from the Scheduled Caste community have applied for these posts up to this date and how many of them have been selected?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" A separate question may be put."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" There are more than 30 Officers who had served as Sub-Magistrates and Tahsildars in the South Arcot district and have been reverted for want of vacancies. Taking into account the fact that they have acted as Sub-Magistrates and their experience, will the Government consider the desirability of appointing those persons as Probation Officers?"

---

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 1212 infra.